

EQUAL SUFFRAGE BADLY DEFEATED

(Continued from first page.)

out in the report that the property of the State is widely separated, and that the theory under which the State is operated. Large sums are paid out for insurance, and yet the amount payable in case of loss is not nearly half the estimated value. No action was taken on the report.

Special Orders Made.

The rolling stock bill, with the committee amendments dividing the taxes on a basis of 10 and 50 per cent, was taken up in the Senate and made a special order for next Wednesday at 12:30. It is probable that an effort will be then made to incorporate in it the provisions of the Williams bill as it passed the House.

For to-day, the Senate has a special order in the shape of the Tavenner bill forbidding the placing of more than one tollgate on a section of turnpike. This legislation is intended to meet the situation on the Valley Turnpike, where the State Corporation Commission recently ordered placed additional tollgates to secure tolls from certain towns peculiarly situated. Feeling in Shenandoah county is said to be intense.

HOUSE

Rev. J. T. Martin offered prayer at the beginning of the House session yesterday.

Among the bills coming from committee were those relating to the State's congressional lines and providing for the election of members of the State Corporation Commission by a vote of the people, both from the Committee on Privileges and Elections.

On a question of personal privilege, Mr. Montague said that when he moved a few days ago to print the additional papers sent in by the board of directors of the penitentiary, he supposed the material was reports of officials. He had since found that these reports were duly printed some time ago, having been incorporated in the report of the board, and that the subsequent matter was merely the letters of transmittal of the officers. He made this explanation.

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tion in justice to the directors.

To Invite Harmon.

On motion of Mr. Land, the House agreed to have a committee appointed, composed of five members of the House and two of the Senate, to notify Governor Judson Harmon, of Ohio, of the invitation that he address the General Assembly, and to make arrangements for his reception.

The Senate later changed this so as to have three members of the committee from this body, which was concurred in.

Mr. White, of Rockbridge, offered a resolution that no bills shall be introduced in either body after February 15, except by unanimous consent, unless they apply to the public revenue. In adopting this the Senate amended it so that purely local bills may be offered after that time, which the House agreed to.

Mr. Oliver wanted to change the date so as to make it February 20, as members had not had time to prepare bills. He called attention that committees of the House have already had more public hearings than were had all through the last session. The Oliver amendment was lost.

State's Insurance.

A report was received from the com-

missioner appointed early in the session, to ascertain the value of State property, and the amount of fire insurance thereon, and to make recommendations. The report gives the value of property, aside from real estate, as \$3,376,253.12, which carries insurance amounting to \$2,700,040.68. This is less than half the value, and the committee thinks there should be more. However, it suggests that there should be an insurance fund, to take care of emergencies, and that the State carry its own insurance and save premiums. The property is so widely scattered that the State stands somewhat in the position of an insurance company. The report is signed by H. U. Stephenson, J. D. chairman; Paul Burgham and John W. Chalkley.

The hour of 12:30 having arrived, the women's suffrage amendments to the Constitution were called up.

Tried to Stop Debate.

Mr. Willerby moved the previous question, which, if carried, would have shut off all debate. Indignantly, Mr. Montague, the patron of the amendments, arose and said that he "would not even ask the distinguished member from King William to withdraw the motion, if, after the matter had been a special order for a week he wished to prevent discussion." But he would, he added, take umbrage at it, and so he believed would every man in the House who believed in fair play. The Willerby motion was defeated, no one, apparently, voting for it.

Alden Bell offered an amendment, which provided that women should be given the right to vote only on matters affecting the taxation of property and affecting schools. Speaking to his amendment, he said that it was barbarism to tax women who own property and not allow them to have a voice in that taxation. So, too, they should have their say about the management of schools. Perhaps the House would not go so far as to admit women to entirely equal suffrage.

Speaker Byrd here vacated the chair, Mr. Fitzhugh occupying it for a time. This caused some excitement on the part of those who thought the Speaker would take the floor for the Montague amendment.

Continuing, Mr. Bell paid a glowing and eloquent tribute to women, who in all ages have been the backbone of the world's burdens and fighting the world's battles. In war times, he said, "the loom and the spindle were the artillery of the reserve."

Montague Advocates Suffrage.

Mr. Montague was the next speaker. He first thanked the House for voting down the Willerby motion, and said he was "glad that the duties of the distinguished gentleman from King William have required him to vacate the chamber for the time being."

He realized, he said, that the Legislature, in a busy session, would not take time to make a serious argument on any question. But those who are behind the movement had the right to have this proposition brought to the attention of the General Assembly. Many people believed that it was but a matter of human justice to admit women to the suffrage.

Mr. Montague reminded his hearers of the speech of Governor Wilson at the City Auditorium, when he said that a new day had dawned, and that times had changed, and he read from the Virginia Bill of Rights, which stated that the people have an inalienable right to change their laws to meet existing conditions.

"I know," he continued, "that this floor is not going to pass this amendment today, but I am convinced that a majority of men on this floor really believe that women are entitled to this right. Woman now have indirect power, it is true. Why not give them direct power and put the responsibility upon them for its use?"

Within fifty years, he said, there has been more change in the position of women relating to public affairs than in all the prior history of the world combined. He spoke of the four states where women have equal political rights, and of the right for it made by John Stuart Mill in England nearly fifty years ago.

This movement, he pursued, is not that of a few women. Many leagues have been organized; organized labor in Virginia has it in its constitution; the Farmers' Union has just endorsed it.

"Instead of this talk about putting woman on a pedestal, why not recognize her as an equal? Twenty years ago there were no women stenographers in the other chambers of Richmond; no women bookkeepers; none of the thousands now earning an honorable living in this city and State. The demand for suffrage is as just as anything else which has evolved from changing conditions of the twentieth century."

"The brotherhood of man is taught from platforms and in lodge rooms. There can be no such thing as long as to half the race we deny the right of suffrage. Let us rise to-day above the narrowness and prejudice and get out on the hilltops and do justice to those whom we say we honor above all things else."

Mr. Montague was loudly applauded as he took his seat.

Have Opposes.

Mr. Love began the House not to "disgrace Virginia" by approving the amendment. If left to the vote of the white women of the State, he said, the proposition would be defeated in 10 to 1. Mr. Bell had spoken with an eloquence and fervor, in his opinion worthy of a better cause, and his amendment was but the suggestion of a deadly poison. Mr. Love aroused much laughter by his tribute to beautiful woman, and his gestures, which indicated his willingness to take her to his arms. He felt sure that the men would not lower white women by putting them on a pedestal with negro women at the polls. "God forbid," he said, "that we shall have manly women and womanly men."

A thing may be logically right, and yet not expedient, said Mr. Banks. There must be shown that there are obvious reasons for an important change. One argument against woman suffrage he regarded as absolutely convincing—that the female sex is guided by emotions and this submerges the justice in their making.

Mr. Creamer said he represented organized labor, which stands for equal justice and no special privileges. It is the men, he said, who are responsible for the conditions under which women work side by side with men in the vocations of life, and which has caused the demand for equal pay for equal service. The women who had been asking for the suffrage, he believed, would measure up in every way with the members of the General Assembly. He warned the House that if it refused the plea, this time it will have to put up with it at each recurring session until its final adoption. He would accept the Bell amendment if he could not get the whole proposition, and would take anything he could get at all.

Chalkley's Speech Enjoyed.

Then came perhaps the most delicious speech which the House has heard at this session—from John W.

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foiled their opponents, and have brought the matter into real consideration in legislative halls.

He then pictured that day to come—perhaps in four years, perhaps in six—when the amendment submitted to the people shall be passed.

Takes Off the Members.

"Then we shall see the member from Giles," he said, "the leader of the Democratic majority on this floor, portraying, as he can do so well, the wonders of his county and of the Southwest. Perhaps in four years, perhaps in six, when the amendment submitted to the people shall be passed, we shall hear the handsome member from the city of Richmond describing the resources of Northumberland and Lancaster and Westmoreland counties, speaking to the measure. We shall see the member from Rockbridge, busily writing at his desk, preparing to introduce about eighty or so more bills, suddenly raise his head and inquire of the member from Henrico: 'What is this bill?' When he finds out what it is, he will say that it is defective, and lacks a dot to an i or a cross to a t, and that he can prepare a better one. And we shall see it pass."

Mr. Roberts, of Mecklenburg, spoke briefly, inquiring of Mr. Chalkley why those Western States, which the latter believed were superior to Virginia.

Voting Stage Reached.

The pending question was moved and ordered. The Bell amendment was lost by a large majority.

The Speaker then put the joint resolution proposing amendments to the Constitution on its passage, and the roll was called.

There was a chorus of noes at the top of the roll. Mr. Stanley Burt, of Surry, was the first to vote "aye," and he was greeted with cheers from the floor and the gallery. Mr. Chalkley voted next and applause followed. Julian T. Christian, of Mathews, also voted "aye," this making three together. Thereafter cheers followed each affirmative vote. Mr. Byrd indulgently permitted this, probably in view of the impending defeat. The greatest applause followed the calling of the name "Mr. Speaker," at the bottom of the roll, and he voted "aye."

The vote was: Ayes, 12; noes, 55.

At 1:45 the House adjourned.

SENATE

The Senate held a featureless session yesterday, compensating for the long debate of the day before by advancing from their third readings seven Senate bills and passing eight House bills—all of them unopposed. Lieutenant Governor J. Taylor Elyson rapped for order at 12 o'clock sharp, and Rev. W. Russell Bowie, rector of St. Paul's Church, offered prayer.

Senator Brock asked the unanimous consent of the Senate to be permitted to have his affirmative vote recorded in favor of the treasurers' bill, which was voted upon the day before while he was absent from the chamber. Permission was granted.

Rolling Stock Wednesday.

Senator Holt moved that his rolling stock bill be made a special and continuing order for 12:30 o'clock Wednesday, and it was so ordered. The bill as drafted by its patron provides for a proportionate division of the tax of rolling stock among the cities and counties on the basis of the assessed value of railroad property therein located. It emerged from the committee room last week with a substitute providing that 10 per cent. of the tax go to the home office cities, and that the remaining 90 per cent. be divided among the counties on the plan suggested in the bill. The measure will in all likelihood call out a lively debate.

A joint resolution was reported from the House providing that five members of the House and two from the Senate shall constitute the Harmon committee. An amendment was offered by Senator Harmon adding another Senator to the committee. The amendment was concurred in by the House.

Considerable discussion arose over the joint resolution reported from the

House providing that no new bills shall be introduced at this session in either house without the unanimous consent of the respective bodies, excepting such measures as affect the public revenue.

Senator Saunders at once offered an amendment excluding from the operation of the resolution all bills of a purely local nature. A number of the Senators suggested that the unanimous consent of the Senate would never be withheld in the case of a meritorious bill of a local nature, and that the amendment was therefore unnecessary. The amendment was carried, however, and was subsequently agreed to by the House.

Upon motion, Senator Tavenner's turnpike bill was made a special order for 1 o'clock to-day. Senator Bower's bill, prohibiting hypnotizing, or the attempt to hypnotize, which had lain in a state of suspended animation for the past week or two on a motion to reconsider, was the first on the calendar, and was ordered to its engrossment with an amendment by Senator Gravatt.

Senate Bills Passed.

The following Senate bills were passed on their third reading:

Providing that partnership real es-

tate shall be treated as personal property unless a different intention shall appear.

To authorize the county of Louisa to borrow temporarily not exceeding \$15,000.

To amend the charter of the city of Suffolk.

To require the board of bridge commissioners of the Falmouth bridge, in the county of Stafford, to let out the collecting of tolls and keeping of said bridge to the highest bidder.

To amend the present law in relation to the appointment of commissioners in chancery.

To amend the Code of Virginia in regard to the effect of the decree in suits for the sale of contingent estates.

To amend the present law in regard to the leveeing, ditching and draining of swamps and overflowed lands in the State.

Following Bills Passed.

The following House bills were passed on their third reading:

To amend the law submitting the question of the removal of the court-

(Continued on seventh page.)

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With all these good feelings and good remarks from my friends I felt that at last I had found the right remedy. I went back to the Haag Drug Store and bought three more boxes of MI-O-NA tablets and took them exactly as directed, and I can truly say they have made a robust young man of me. I am 65 years old and can do a harder day's work than in younger days.

I hope this letter will be published so others who suffer as I have can also be benefited." W. H. Sneed, 1229 N. Missouri St., Indianapolis, Ind.

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